--- 500 Manilla Cheroots - BLUE - “Series of 1883” - 428 x 20 mm. ---

The catalogue lists the recess printed blue “500 Manilla Cheroots” cigar “Series of 1883” as follows:

RG-359 - 500 Manilla Cheroots, blue, *coarse roulette*, on vertical mesh wove,
with 4 mm. red controls, and a 25 mm. “Ottawa” imprint

4th BABN Contract (1886-1892)	John McKay records 5,750 copies of “500 Blue Cheroots” *recess printed* by hand press were delivered.
5th BABN Contract (1892-1897)	John McKay records 25,000 copies of “500 Blue Cheroots” *recess printed* by hand press were delivered.

Probably there was only a single printing around 1891, and most of the strips were ‘delivered’ under the **5th BABN Contract**.

4th BABN Contract	5,750 recess printed by hand press	**000001** to **005750** - **RG-359**
5th BABN Contract	25,000 recess printed by hand press	**005751** to **030750** - **RG-359**

The black 500 Manilla cheroot strip, **RG-273**, obviously did not have extensive use, since John McKay records the delivery of only ***fifty*** copies. Tony Hyman (from California) reports that these “Manilla Cheroots” strips were used on cigars imported from the Philippine Islands. If this was its only purpose, why print any in black ink? These black strips are printed on inferior paper, are bent, and poorly perforated. The initial copy **000001** is in the collection - they seem to have been simply a trial batch made with black ink.

--- 500 Manilla Cheroots - BLUE - “Series of 1883” - 5th BABN Contract (1892-1897) ---

--- recess printed by hand press on vertical mesh wove - with 4 mm red controls - 428 x 20 mm. ---

--- RG-359 - *coarse roulette* - with a 25 mm. “Ottawa” imprint - scanned at 35% scale ---

★**RG-359 CP** - 500 Manilla Cheroots, blue, coarse roulette, on vertical mesh wove, with 4 mm. control **015041**, stamped **CANCELLED** in 3 mm. Gothic letters

★**RG-359** - 500 Manilla Cheroots, blue, coarse roulette, on vertical mesh wove, with 4 mm. control **020475**

015015	RG-359	500 Manilla Cheroots, blue, coarse roulette, on *vertical* mesh wove
015024	RG-359	500 Manilla Cheroots, blue, coarse roulette, on *vertical* mesh wove
015041★	RG-359 CP	500 Manilla Cheroots, blue, coarse roulette, on *vertical* mesh wove stamped **CANCELLED** in 3 mm. Gothic letters
020233	RG-359	500 Manilla Cheroots, blue, coarse roulette, on *vertical* mesh wove
020270	RG-359	500 Manilla Cheroots, blue, coarse roulette, on *vertical* mesh wove
020283	RG-359	500 Manilla Cheroots, blue, coarse roulette, on *vertical* mesh wove
020296★	RG-359	500 Manilla Cheroots, blue, coarse roulette, on *vertical* mesh wove
020326★	RG-359	500 Manilla Cheroots, blue, coarse roulette, on *vertical* mesh wove
020331	RG-359	500 Manilla Cheroots, blue, coarse roulette, on *vertical* mesh wove
020342	RG-359	500 Manilla Cheroots, blue, coarse roulette, on *vertical* mesh wove
020390	RG-359	500 Manilla Cheroots, blue, coarse roulette, on *vertical* mesh wove
020459	RG-359	500 Manilla Cheroots, blue, coarse roulette, on *vertical* mesh wove
020475★	RG-359	500 Manilla Cheroots, blue, coarse roulette, on *vertical* mesh wove
020493★	RG-359	500 Manilla Cheroots, blue, coarse roulette, on *vertical* mesh wove

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The collection does not contain a copy of **RG-359**, *recess printed* under the **4th BABN Contract** - i.e. with control numbering below **005750**.

File path is [c:\ CR - STAMPS \ RG_STAMPS \ 1883 \ Blue \ 500 Manilla cheroots],
In MS Word 2007 for Windows 7,
Formatted for a HP CP 1525 Laser Jet,
October 14th 2013 - JBH